FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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Feature of Issue: EUROPEAN MARKET CONDITIONS

THE SHANGHAI WHEAT MARKET

The wheat crop in that region of China that supplies the Shanghai flour mills is considered good, according to a cable received from Agricultural Commissioner Paul Myhus at Shanghai. Quotations for No. 2 Western red wheat at Shanghai for September and October delivery are 18 cents per bushel higher than domestic wheat. Futures flour prices are relatively high but not high enough to permit buying American wheat at the current quotations. Flour mills are willing to pay as high as 9 cents premium for foreign wheat due to its higher milling percentage. The largest market for Shanghai flour is in North China where military and currency problems weaken prospects of flour prices rising to a level of foreign quotations. Chinese silver currency is low in exchange value and unfavorable for import trade.

INCREASE IN ESTIMATE OF ARGENTINE CORN CROP

The 1926-27 corn crop, according to the second official estimate, is placed at 321,000,000 bushels, an increase of 26,000,000 over the first estimate made early in May. The official estimate of exportable surplus, which was then placed at 233,000,000 bushels, if increased in accordance with the increase in production, would be about 259,000,000 bushels or greater than actual exports in any past year so far as they are recorded. Last year the total exportable surplus for the season on the basis of the second production estimate was 197,000,000, while actual exports for the season April to March were 234,597,000 bushels. Actual exports for the current year may be cut down somewhat, however, by a greater domestic demand than usual for corn to supplement the poor pasturage caused by the drought of the past few months. For the past six years domestic corn consumption has averaged 88,000,000 bushels.

BUTTER PRICES IN EUROPEAN MARKETS SLIGHTLY LOWER

During the week ended June 23, butter quotations in the principal foreign markets declined very slightly, while domestic quotations were practically unchanged. The Copenhagen official quotation was equivalent on June 23 to 32.2 cents against 32.8 cents a week earlier and 34.7 a year ago. Ninety-two score in New York was 42¼ cents against 42 last week and 41½ a year ago. In London, New Zealand finest continues to sell at practically the same price as Danish and at the same level as a year ago. Siberian butter is lower at 32.8 cents, but somewhat above the price of last season at this time. The greatest margin in favor of domestic prices is thus 10 cents or somewhat less than the tariff alone. A detailed statement of comparative prices in important world markets appears on page 863.

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CROP AND MARKET PROSPECTS

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BREAD GRAINS

Canadian wheat acreage and crop conditions

The Northwest Grain Dealers' Association at Winnipeg, Canada, in a report on June 20 estimated the area sown to wheat in the Prairie Provinces of Canada at 19,889,100 acres. This corresponds closely to the estimate of 19,420,473 acres made by the "Manitoba Free Press" at Winnipeg on June 18 in their second crop report. The first crop report of the "Free Press" on May 28 estimated the wheat area for the three Prairie Provinces as 17,860,000 acres. The first official forecast of acreage for the present year will be issued on July 11.

Very satisfactory crop reports have been received by the Alberta Provincial Department of Agriculture, according to that province's "Third Fortnightly Crop Report" dated June 18. Good progress was reported for all crops during the preceding 2 weeks, with excellent prospects indicated by their condition at the time of reporting. The weather over all of western Canada during the week ending June 20 has been favorable to crop growth, according to reports of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. Warmer weather accompanied by some rain provided exceptional growth and the crops in general are making good progress. Wheat growth is reported to be strong and healthy. Winter rye is in head, looks well and present conditions would indicate an early harvest.

European wheat conditions

No changes have been reported in European bread grain acreage or production figures during the past week. Crop conditions in Europe also remain generally unchanged and satisfactory, according to a cable from Agricultural Commissioner G. C. Haas at Berlin. The weather for the week ending June 23 was relatively cool over Germany, Poland and Scandinavia. Rains which fell in France and over the Po Valley of Italy should have improved conditions as rains were needed in these countries. The Balkan States were dry and warm during the week but good rains were reported over this section the first half of June and the crops apparently have sufficient moisture. The condition of the wheat crop is generally above average in all countries while rye is about average. Crop developments in Germany are delayed two or three weeks.

Russian crop conditions remain practically unchanged although some damage is reported from hailstorms in White Russia, from heat in South Russia and from locusts in North Caucasus. Unofficial reports state that measures are being taken to combat the latter menace. The acreage sown to all grains is estimated at 1.2 per cent increase over 1926. The crops are apparently in better condition than at the same time last year.

CROP AND MARKET PROSPECTS, CONT'D

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The Central Statistical Board at Moscow has issued a report stating that on June 1 the general condition of winter and spring grain sowings throughout the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was slightly better than at the same time last year. The sown area has been increased 1.2 per cent as compared with last year, the increase being devoted mostly to wheat.

Southern Hemisphere growing conditions

No rain fell in Argentina during the week ending June 20, according to reports to the United States Weather Bureau. The continued lack of rain in Argentina is causing apprehension in agricultural circles, according to an article in the "Times of Argentina" on May 23. The article stated that the north part of the country had been seeded up to average up to that date because in March and April the soil was sufficiently moist to be ploughed. The centre was about 25 per cent to 40 per cent below normal acreage, while the south was said to be 50 per cent lower than at that time last year. During the week ending May 30 light rains were reported in the north and again for the week ending June 13, but otherwise the past month has been dry.

Dry weather has been reported in Australia but the situation has been greatly improved by a much needed rain fall during the first week of June.

Movements to market

United States

Exports of wheat and wheat flour from the United States for the week ending June 17 were 2,723,000 bushels as compared with 1,260,000 the previous week. Total exports for the season are 213,157,000 bushels against 103,030,000 for the same period last year. Net exports for the season to date are 200,000,000 bushels. The total net exports for the year will thus be well within the probable range of 195 to 220 millions reported in the March 14th issue of "Foreign Crops and Markets," and very close to the 200 million given as the most probable amount.

Canada

The visible supply of wheat in the western inspection division of Canada on June 17 was 33,246,231 bu., about a million more than on the corresponding date last year. Stocks of wheat at Fort William-Port Arthur were 22,048,000 bushels, showing little change from the corresponding date last year. Fort William-Port Arthur received 2,364,000 bushels and shipped 2,777,000 bushels of wheat during the week as compared with receipts of 2,641,000 bushels and shipments of 3,707,000 bushels the previous week. Total receipts for the season are 240,196,-000

CROP AND MARKET PROSPECTS, CONT'D

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bushels and total shipments 229,159,000 bushels. Vancouver received 141,000 bushels of wheat and Prince Rupert 53,000 bushels. Vancouver shipped 703,000 bushels by ocean and 36,000 bushels by rail. Prince Rupert shipped 177,000 bushels by ocean. Total shipments for the season from Vancouver and Prince Rupert are 40,405,000 bushels as compared with 53,018,000 for the same period last season.

Other countries

Argentina exported 2,139,000 bushels of wheat during the week as compared with 4,378,000 bushels the previous week; Australia, 2,304,000 bushels as compared with 2,616,000 the previous week, and India 152,000 bushels as compared with 832 the previous week. Russia has exported no wheat during the past two weeks. Russian shipments of wheat through the Bosporus for the season since August 1 are 33,248,000 bushels as compared with 21,977,000 bushels for the period August through June, 1925-26. Rye shipments for the present season are 6,629,000 bushels as compared with 3,990,000 bushels last season.

United States wheat prices

The cash price of wheat advanced slightly during the week ending June 17. The general average of all grades and classes advanced 1 cent from $1.49 to $1.50 as compared with the week before. No. 1 dark northern spring was the only class of wheat to decline and it declined 1 cent from $1.59 to $1.58. No. 2 hard red winter remained unchanged at $1.45. No. 2 amber durum advanced 1 cent from $1.58 to $1.59 and No. 2 soft red winter 1 cent from $1.50 to $1.51. Cash prices since June 17 have declined, especially winter wheat. The spread between Winnipeg and Minneapolis cash prices on June 17 remained unchanged at nine cents in favor of Winnipeg.

Since the week ending June 17, future prices of wheat have declined. New winter wheat in the southwest now coming to market and favorable weather conditions in the southwest and in the spring wheat belt have been contributing factors in the North American markets. Conditions in Europe at present indicate an increase in wheat production over last year. On June 21 July futures were slightly less than 2 cents higher at Chicago, Kansas City and Winnipeg as compared with a week before, but were a fraction down at Minneapolis and 1 5/8 cents down at Liverpool. September futures showed the same changes in regard to markets, but the advance was not as marked at Chicago and Kansas City. The present position of futures is shown in the following table:

Market	July futures		September futures	
	June 21, 1926	June 21, 1927	June 21, 1926	June 21, 1927
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Chicago	1.37 1/2	1.46 1/4	1.33 1/2	1.43 3/8
Kansas City	1.27	1.37 3/8	1.24 7/8	1.35 1/4
Minneapolis	1.49 1/2	1.44	1.37 1/2	1.43 1/2
Winnipeg	1.49 3/4	1.59 3/4	-	-
Liverpool	1.63 1/4	1.62 7/8	-	-

CROP AND MARKET PROSPECTS, CONT'D

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It appears that July wheat at Chicago, Kansas City and Winnipeg is approximately 10 cents above last year's prices while at Minneapolis and Liverpool July wheat is approximately five cents below last year. As indicated above, there is a spread of approximately 17 cents between Chicago and Liverpool July prices compared with approximately 31 last year. Between Winnipeg and Minneapolis there is a margin of approximately 16 cents in favor of Winnipeg compared with even prices last year at the same time.

CORN

For the five days, June 16 - 21, the daily cash price of United States No. 3 yellow corn at Chicago was 30 cents or more above corresponding quotations on Argentine corn in Buenos Aires for July delivery. The Chicago quotations noted appeared in the Chicago "Daily Trade Bulletin", while the Buenos Aires figures appeared in the New York "Journal of Commerce". The positions noted carry on the situation pointed out in "Foreign Crops and Markets" for June 20, 1927.

Owing to Argentine pastures being damaged by drought, the "Times of Argentina" reports a probable increase in domestic corn consumption, along with barley and oats, for the feeding of livestock. The situation is viewed as favoring higher prices being paid for the large corn crop, which is reported as being in excellent condition, with an unusually low moisture content for this time of year. Exports of corn from Argentina for the week ended June 18 continued unusually heavy, amounting to 7,400,000 bushels, against 6,172,000 bushels a week earlier. This is the heaviest export for the season, except for the week ended June 4.

Corn exports from the United States for the week ended June 18, on the other hand, amounted to only 146,000 bushels. The total United States export for the season to that date reached only 77 per cent of the amount exported up to the same date last season. For May, imports into the United States reached about 25,500 bushels, which was below March and April, but about equal to the February figure. Any increase in our purchases as a result of the wide margin of Chicago quotations over Buenos Aires, however, would not be reflected in United States import statistics before the compiling of figures for June or July.

Imports of corn into France for the first quarter of 1927 were heavier than in any winter quarter since the war, according to Consul Wesley Frost at Marseilles. A part of these arrivals were destined for Morocco, but the French inland demand was also good. Danube corn was reported to be lower in price than that from Argentina. The exports from the Danube for the week ending June 9 were heavier than for the last few weeks.

CROP AND MARKET PROSPECTS, CONT'D

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BARLEY AND OATS

Reports of feed grain acreage in the Prairie Provinces of Canada put out by the "Manitoba Free Press" of June 18 and the Northwest Grain Dealers' Association on June 20 both show increases over last year for both barley and oats. The increases reported by the "Free Press" are greater for both barley and oats then those reported by the Grain Dealers' Association. This association reports an 8.7 per cent increase in oats and a 13.6 per cent increase in barley, based on returns from 80 per cent of country points in the three Provinces. By Provinces, the increase in oats is 13.8 for Manitoba, 6.8 for Saskatchewan and 7.7 for Alberta. The "Manitoba Free Press" reports a 20 per cent increase in oats acreage in Manitoba, 10 per cent in Saskatchewan, and 10 per cent in Alberta. For barley the Northwest Grain Dealers' Association reports an 18.4 per cent increase in Manitoba, 8.1 per cent in Saskatchewan and 5.1 per cent in Alberta, while the "Manitoba Free Press reports a 30 per cent increase for Manitoba, 5 per cent for Saskatchewan and 10 per cent for Alberta. These reports tend to bear out earlier predictions of a slight shift from wheat to feed grains as a result of poor seeding conditions for wheat.

There have been no important changes during the week in the acreage or condition of the 1927 European barley crop. The acreage and condition of oats are also about the same as previously published. The condition of both of these grains in Poland on June 5, according to a cable from the International Institute of Agriculture, had improved a little since the first of the month and was as good as or a little better than on the first of June for the last two years.

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SUGAR

It is estimated that the new sugar crop of Argentina which is now being harvested will amount to 507,000 short tons as compared with 524,000 short tons produced in 1926, according to a report of June 6 from the Argentine-American Chamber of Commerce at Buenos Aires. The surplus from last year's crop is estimated at 220,000 short tons. This, together with the estimate for the new crop, will be more than enough to satisfy domestic consumption which is placed at about 340,000 short tons per annum. Efforts are being exerted to find a market outside of the country for about 55,000 short tons of the present surplus, according to the report.

A serious strike in the sugar industry is reported from the Province of Tucuman, which normally produces about 75 per cent of the total Argentine sugar crop. As a result of the strike, sugar harvesting in this province had not begun at the date of the report (June 6) and conditions in the sugar industry were said to be critical. Harvesting of the sugar crop usually begins in May.

CROP AND MARKET PROSPECTS, CONT'D

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No new figures on European sugar beet acreage have been received since the figures published in "Foreign Crops and Markets", June 13, page 809. See page 860 of this issue for a detailed description of European sugar beet crop conditions.

TOBACCO

A third estimate of the 1927 crop of export tobacco in the Dominican Republic places production at around 50,000,000 pounds, according to Consul Bickers at Puerto Plata. The second estimate stood at 35,000,000 to 40,000,000 pounds and the first at 50,000,000 pounds, against an outturn for 1926 estimated at only 17,000,000 to 18,000,000 pounds. The average annual production for the period 1921-25 is put at 25,000,000 pounds. Production in 1925 and 1924 reached 43,000,000 pounds and 29,000,000 pounds, respectively. Ample rains during the last half of April, 1927 and early in May are cited as having improved the crop outlook, which had been rendered unfavorable by dry weather during March and early April. Early samples of the 1927 growth have shown rather poor quality. The bulk of the crop, however, will be harvested and cured during June and July, and better quality returns are expected as a result of improved weather conditions.

Bahia tobacco exports for April

Exports of leaf tobacco from Bahia, Brazil, during April, 1927 increased by 50 per cent compared with March, 1927, and 5 per cent compared with April of last year, according to a report from Consul Howard Donovan at Bahia, of May 20, 1927. The absolute figures, in pounds, are: April, 1927, 4,062,000; March, 1927, 2,704,000; April, 1926, 3,858,000. Germany took 2,072,699 pounds, slightly more than half of Bahia's April tobacco exports, and the Netherlands and Argentine followed with 1,125,779 pounds and 637,350 pounds respectively. Stocks at Bahia as given by the Consul appear on page 859.

The tobacco market situation in Germany

The chief feature of the German tobacco market situation in recent months is the continued strength in the cigar section as indicated both by figures on cigar consumption for the first quarter of 1927 and by the increasing tendency in imports from cigar tobacco countries, according to a report received in the Department of Agriculture from Acting Agricultural Commissioner L. V. Steere at Berlin. A further decrease in consumption of cigarettes and pipe tobacco for the second consecutive quarter is also noteworthy. Although stocks of tobacco at German port markets are reported relatively small, business was comparatively quiet in May, with buyers cautious and interested only for current needs. Amsterdam, on the other hand, reported active buying during April and May with German takings through that market large, apparently in reflection of current interest in cigar types. Conditions in the German tobacco industry generally appear to be growing more stable, although the cigarette branch is still in difficulty. See F. S. release, T-30, June 17, 1927.

CROP AND MARKET PROSPECTS, CONT'D

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MINOR FIBERS

The hemp crop in South Italy

The condition of the hemp crop in Southern Italy remains favorable, according to a cablegram received from Consul Byington. The crop is expected to be as large as last year. Prospects are especially good in the vicinity of Naples. Prices at Naples are rising almost daily because the quantity offered is less than the demand from France, England, and Belgium, where spinners are substituting hemp for flax which they cannot obtain from Russia.

Drought affecting Yucatan sisal crop

A severe and prolonged drought is checking henequen production in Yucatan, according to a report received in the Department of Agriculture from Vice-Consul Hernan C. Vogenitz in Progresso. Planters express the opinion that both the quantity and quality of fiber will decrease in the continued absence of rainfall. It is stated that the dryness of the henequen plants and leaves is producing a much larger percentage of inferior and stained fiber which is practically unsaleable in the foreign market. Stocks of sisal at Progresso on June 1 amounted to 38,116 bales (a bale weighing between 350 and 400 pounds) as compared with 35,617 bales on June 1, 1926. Stocks at Merida, Campeche, and on plantations were approximately 125,000 bales. Prices during May remained unchanged at 6 7/8 cents per pound compared with 8½ cents per pound last year.

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LIVESTOCK, MEAT AND WOOL

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Hogs and pork

HEAVY GERMAN SLAUGHTER: Hog slaughterings in Germany during May at 36 centers reached the unusually high level of 401,000 head, according to preliminary figures cabled by L. V. Steere, Acting Agricultural Commissioner at Berlin. The April figure was 262,000 and for May 1926, 273,000 head. Receipts of live hogs at 14 markets also reached a new high point, at 326,000 head against 310,000 for April and 210,000 a year ago. May bacon imports, at 896,000 pounds, were about the same as the preceding month and only slightly larger than last year. Lard imports reached 16,314,000 pounds against 23,539,000 pounds for April and 13,051,000 pounds in May, 1926.

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FRUIT, VEGETABLES AND NUTS

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NEW ZEALAND'S 1927 APPLE EXPORTS: Total shipments of apples to be made from New Zealand during the 1927 season are estimated at 525,000 bushel cases as compared with 730,000 cases last year, according to a report received in the Department of Agriculture from Consul-General W. L. Lowrie at Wellington. The decrease is due largely to hailstorms and adverse weather conditions which affected the crop in the Hawkes Bay and Auckland Districts. Approximately 69,000 cases of the 1927 exportable surplus still remained to be shipped at the end of May. English market indications are that growers will receive a good average price. This year is the first in which direct shipments have been made to Manchester and Avonmouth.

CONDITIONS FAVORABLE FOR SMYRNA RAISIN CROP: Reports concerning the coming raisin crop of Smyrna are favorable, according to a report from Consul Corrigan at Smyrna. It is predicted that if the climatic conditions continue to be favorable as they have been during the last few weeks, the next crop may exceed last season's estimated production of 36,000 short tons by 25 per cent. However, it is far too early to make even a fairly accurate estimate, states Consul Corrigan. May and June are among the most dangerous months for grapes and it is during these two months that peronospora and mildew may develop in the vineyards.

CELERY CROP IN BERMUDA: The total celery crop of Bermuda will be marketed at an earlier date this year than last year, according to a report of May 27 from Consul Robertson Honey at Hamilton. The prolonged drought of the late winter and early spring was followed by generous rains which quickened growth of the celery planted two or three or even four weeks later than the first planting so that the entire planting of the celery acreage is maturing simultaneously. The crop was late in developing but it is said to be of a remarkably fine quality. During April, the month in which shipments usually begin 18,700 pounds were shipped as compared with 14,850 shipped during the same month in 1926. Of the total crop shipped up to May 27, 15,622 crates of about 80 pounds each were sent to the New York markets. In 1926 Bermuda produced about 37,000 crates of celery.

SPANISH ONION SHIPMENTS: Shipments of Spanish onions to the United States up to June 23, 1927, amounted to 1,126 cases, 30,855 half-cases and 85,709 crates, according to a cable received in the Department of Agriculture from Consul Clement S. Edwards at Valencia. This is equivalent to approximately 104,400 bushels. Of this season's shipments, 171 cases, 22,654 half-cases and 60,568 crates were reported as having been shipped to the American market prior to June 16.

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EUROPEAN MARKET CONDITIONS CONTINUE TO IMPROVE

Economic conditions in the principal European markets for American agricultural products showed general improvement during the month of May, according to information received from L. V. Steere, acting American agricultural commissioner at Berlin, the United States Department of Commerce, and from other sources. In the United Kingdom the cotton trade is picking up and the general demand situation is satisfactory. In Germany and Central Europe industrial production and consumptive demand made favorable progress. French developments also appeared slightly favorable, for the first time in several months, and Italy seems to have made a real start towards adjustment of internal conditions to the present level of the currency. The immediate outlook for both France and Italy is for some improvement.

Germany

The volume of German production and business continued to move upward during May, showing no effect of stiffening money rates, of the sharp break in the stock market, or of the sustained productive activity of recent months, according to a report from Acting Agricultural Commissioner Steere, at Berlin. The general level of business promises to continue high for some time, but indications are increasing that the top of the current upward surge is approaching, and that some movement off from present levels is likely to develop in coming months, although no sharp recession is now anticipated. Practically the only important exception to a general favorable industrial picture is the situation in the coal industry, where production continues to decline and stocks to increase as a result of increasing competition on the international market. The iron and steel industry found business generally satisfactory, especially in the domestic market, while other industries, such as textiles, metal and machinery and building, also made further progress. Unemployment continues to fall steadily. The effect of better occupation and improving wages is well shown in the sales of consumer cooperative associations which averaged 50 per cent higher in April than in the same month last year.

France

Although there was no pronounced change, developments in France during May were more on the favorable side than for several months past, according to Acting Agricultural Commissioner Steere. Except for coal and some branches of the iron and steel trades, no important industries suffered unfavorable developments during May while many, including cotton and wool textiles, silk and automobiles either continued active or experienced some improvement. On the other hand, living costs continue high and demand reduced. The trade balance was also unfavorable in April. The situation continues uncertain but the worst of the industrial crisis appears more definitely passed and the outlook somewhat more favorable.

EUROPEAN MARKET CONDITIONS CONTINUE TO IMPROVE, CONT'D

Italy

May was a difficult month for Italian business and is perhaps the forerunner of a difficult period of readjustment. The month's business developments, however, did much to clear up, at least temporarily, some of the uncertainty hitherto existing, according to Mr. Steere. The Government, in the first place, has announced its intention of giving industry a breathing spell by preventing a further rise of the lira, at least until autumn; and secondly has started a rigorous campaign to lower prices and bring about readjustments to the present external value of the lira. Wage cuts of 10 per cent have already been agreed upon in the textile industries, both by the employers and workers, and general reduction of prices by trades-people and landlords, and wage cuts for agricultural laborers and others, are taking place either voluntarily or by compulsion. These readjustments will mean material reduction of purchasing power to large groups but will doubtless hasten Italy's return to an international basis. While Italy's foreign trade generally shows much less effect on the lira revaluation than had been expected, some lines, among them cotton textiles, are reported as suffering severely, and practically all industrial industries are having difficulty both at home and abroad.

Czechoslovakia and Austria

Production and trade continued to develop favorably in both Czechoslovakia and Austria during May and the outlook is favorable, so long as German business activity and demand are well maintained, states Mr. Steere. Except for coal, the leading industries in both countries are finding satisfactory sales both at home and abroad.

United Kingdom

There was continued improvement in the industrial and trade situation in the United Kingdom during May, according to reports received in the Department of Agriculture from the Department of Commerce. Unemployment is less than in April, 1926, just before the coal stoppage. Railway freight traffic is considered satisfactory and the volume is increasing. Retail trade shows improvement and reflects increasing general buying power. A substantial increase in exports during May as compared with April, combined with a decline in imports, indicates a more satisfactory balance of trade. The cotton trade in the Manchester district has picked up somewhat with more contracts from India and better advices from China, according to the monthly supplement of "The Economist". The trade in wool textiles has not developed as well as was hoped some time ago, but the demand for piece goods has expanded slightly, and more workers have been absorbed, although much machinery continues to stand idle. Bacon prices in Liverpool continue to move upward in spite of increased imports during May. Imports from the United States, however, showed a slight falling off.

EUROPEAN MARKET CONDITIONS CONTINUE TO IMPROVE, CONT'D

Belgium

Satisfactory business conditions continue to prevail in Belgium, according to reports from the Department of Commerce. The national financial situation is very good. Prices are stable and unemployment is practically non-existent. Freight car loadings are higher. The demand for iron and steel continues slack and conditions in the coal industry are dull but other principal industries are in good condition.

Netherlands

Business conditions in the Netherlands are in general satisfactory, according to the Department of Commerce. Annual reports of various companies published during May showed generally favorable results. Sales of coal, leather and lumber are dull, but the textile mills are active. There is a good demand for grain with stocks decreasing and prices tending upward.

Scandinavia

No developments of outstanding importance are to be noted in the Swedish situation. A general spirit of optimism prevails and the underlying factors nearly all point to a continuation of moderate prosperity. The serious element of uncertainty which has characterized conditions in Norway for some time has been removed by the passage of the Labor Arbitration Bill and the settlement of the labor troubles by the new labor court. The industrial situation is still greatly depressed and all industries are operating on an extremely narrow margin of profit. Although industrial activity continues low in Denmark there was a slow general improvement in business during May. Agricultural production and exports continue at record figures but prices showed no improvement. Unfavorable spring weather indicates a reduction in butter production while, at the same time, the rising grain prices together with continued weakness in bacon quotations, will doubtless tend to reduce the production of bacon.

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CANADA ESTABLISHES ADDITIONAL IMPORT VALUATIONS

The second order this year establishing "fixed valuations" to be used as the basis for collecting the import duty and for assessing anti-dumping duties was issued by the Canadian Department of National Revenue under date of June 14. This order is in continuation of the plan inaugurated last year for protecting Canadian fruit and vegetable producers from the competition of United States shippers at periods of the year when imported produce is likely to injuriously affect the market for Canadian produce of a similar character.

CANADA ESTABLISHES ADDITIONAL IMPORT VALUATIONS, CONT'D

The products for which "fixed valuations" have been established thus far this year and the periods during which they will be applied are shown in the following tabulation:

Commodity	Fixed valuation per pound	Period applicable	Tariff rates
	Cents		
Asparagus a/	10	April 16 - June 30	30% ad valorem
Lettuce	3	All year	30% ad valorem
Strawberries	10	June 1 - June	2¢ per pound b/
Onions c/	$1\frac{3}{4}$	All year	30% ad valorem
Cucumbers	3	June 1 - Sept. 30	30% ad valorem
Spinach	3	May 1 - June 30	30% ad valorem
Radishes	5	May 1 - July 31	30% ad valorem
Cherries	6	June 10 - Aug. 31	2¢ per pound b/
Raspberries	17	June 15 - July 31	2¢ per pound b/
Beans (green)	4	June 15-Sept. 30	25¢ per bushel
Rhubarb	$2\frac{1}{2}$	March 1-May 21	30% ad valorem

a/ First three items covered in Appraisers' Bulletin No. 3334, June 1, 1927.
b/ Includes weight of container. c/ This and succeeding items covered in Appraisers' Bulletin No. 3338, June 14, 1927.

The above minimum values shall be applicable to shipments when sold at the point of production. Where products are sold f.o.b. intermediate distributing points, full transportation costs, including line haul charges, refrigeration, heating, etc., from point of production to distributing point, shall be added.

For detailed statement explaining the manner in which the "fixed valuations" are applied, see Foreign Service release F-33 issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics under date of September 23, 1926.

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TOBACCO: Stocks in Bahia, Brazil, November 15, 1926 - May 20, 1927

Date	Amount
	Pounds
November 15, 1926	8,706,000
December 1, "	6,389,000
December 11, "	6,133,000
December 31, "	3,380,000
January 24, 1927	3,763,000
February 18, "	4,832,000
March 22, "	5,480,000
April 19, "	8,911,787
May 20, "	9,637,718

LICHT'S COMMENTS ON EUROPEAN SUGAR BEETS

Last week we published the statement that unfavorable weather conditions had retarded by about 2 weeks the development of European sugar beets, according to F. A. Licht's monthly report dated May 31. Some details from that report appear below:

In Czechoslovakia and central Germany warm weather early in May followed by cold and rainy weather lasting with a few exceptions until the end of the month, hampered the development of the sugar beets. It is stated that while the crop had been delayed about two weeks, the young beets were healthy and vigorous and may respond to the effects of favorable weather conditions. Field work in May was carried on with few interruptions, and damages from insect pests were insignificant. In south Germany and in the Rhineland, May was warm and dry which at first prompted the growth of the beets but with the continued drought further development was checked.

Conditions similar to those of southern Germany occurred in France, Belgium and Netherlands. In France, favorable weather conditions early in May caused the young plants to develop rapidly, but at the time of Mr. Licht's report (May 31) rain was urgently needed. The late sown seeds were suffering especially. In Belgium, the crop is delayed about ten days and in Netherlands about two weeks. As in France, the growth of the plants was satisfactory during the early part of May. Hot dry weather lasting for more than three weeks followed by unusually cold weather resulted in an unsatisfactory condition. Field work, however, had been carried on without interruption and weeds kept under control. No damage from insect pests had occurred.

Weather conditions in Sweden were unfavorable until the end of April so beet seeds were not sown before the beginning of May. During the first half of the month the weather was still cold, and sprouting of the seed made slow progress, with the result that the stand of the beet fields on May 31 was far behind that of normal, but with the beginning of more favorable weather conditions Mr. Licht states that the delay may soon be made up.

Poland and Yugoslavia report an abundance of moisture during May with only a medium temperature. Here also the development of the beet fields was behind that of normal years. In Yugoslavia, the weather conditions improved during the latter half of the month. In Russia, beet sowings in the principal beet growing districts of Ukraine had been finished by May 17 and the condition of the plants was reported as satisfactory.

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WHEAT: Acreage, average 1909-1913, 1921-1925, annual 1925-1927.

Country	Average 1909-1913	Average 1921-1925	1925	1926	1927	Per cent 1927 is of 1926
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Per cent
Total North America (2)..	29,401	80,612	32,028	37,793	39,418	104.3
Total Europe (14)........	60,005	55,438	57,088	57,087	57,185	100.2
Total Africa (3).........	6,531	7,063	7,854	8,258	7,142	86.5
Total Asia (2)...........	30,124	30,628	32,873	31,667	32,071	101.3
Total Northern Hemisphere(21)	126,061	173,741	129,843	134,805	135,816	100.7
Ukraine..................	6,140	5,313	6,189	7,612	9,500	124.8
Total above and Ukraine..	132,201	179,054	136,032	142,417	145,316	102.0
Estimated world total excluding Russia and China	204,200	225,900	227,300	232,000		

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RYE: Acreage, average 1909-1913, 1921-1925, annual 1925 - 1927

Country	Average 1909 - 1913	Average 1921 - 1925	1925	1926	1927	Per cent 1927 is of 1926
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Per cent
Total North America (2)	2,353	6,327	4,826	4,166	4,170	100.1
Total Europe (14)	35,798	29,965	31,982	31,605	31,063	98.3
Total 16 countries	38,151	36,292	36,808	35,771	35,233	98.5
Ukraine	9,253	12,130	12,503	14,135	12,594	89.1
Total above and Ukraine	47,404	48,422	49,311	49,906	47,827	95.8
Estimated world total, excluding Russia and China	48,300	45,700	46,600	45,500		

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GRAINS: Exports from the United States, July 1-June 18, 1925-26 and 1926-27
PORK: Exports from the United States, Jan. 1-June 18, 1925-26 and 1926-27

Commodity	July 1-June 18 1925-26	July 1-June 18 a/ 1926-27	Week ending May 28 1927	Week ending June 4 1927	Week ending June 11 1927	Week ending June 18 1927
GRAINS:	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
Wheat b/	60,025	152,109	2,010	939	668	1,811
Wheat flour c/d/	43,005	61,048	724	691	592	912
Rye	12,116	19,591	1,072	710	188	550
Corn	22,306	17,106	213	311	94	146
Oats	29,471	8,417	453	458	9	157
Barley	26,404	16,501	139	219	211	229
	January 1-June 18					
PORK:	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Hams & shoulders, inc Wiltshire sides	104,055	56,494	1,968	1,940	1,671	1,932
Bacon, including Cumberland sides	92,147	51,553	1,872	1,246	1,632	3,561
Lard	360,302	326,802	12,282	17,075	10,917	12,318
Pickled pork	13,389	11,781	284	449	508	239

Compiled from official records of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. a/ Revised to May 31, including exports from all ports. b/ Including via Pacific ports this week: Wheat flour 70,100 barrels. Barley from San Francisco, 229,000. c/ Includes flour milled in bond from Canadian wheat. d/ In terms of bushels of wheat.

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COTTON: Production in countries reporting for 1926-27
with comparisons
(Bales of 478 pounds net)

Country	Average 1909-10 to 1913-14	1924-25	1925-26	1926-27	Per cent 1926-27 is of 1925-26
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	Per cent
Total countries reporting to date all periods a/	--	23,536	26,458	26,840	101.4
Estimated world total	20,900	24,900	27,900	28,200	101.1

Official sources and International Institute of Agriculture, except as otherwise stated.
a/ Includes United States, India, Egypt, Russia, Turkey (unofficial estimate), Bulgaria, French Morocco, Mexico, Ecuador, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, Greece (Unofficial estimate), China (Chinese Mill Owners' Association estimates). Tanganyika, Malta, Spain, Iraq, Italian Somaliland, Australia, Cyprus, Syria and Chosen.

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BUTTER: Prices in London, Berlin, Copenhagen and New York, in cents per pound
(Foreign prices by weekly cable)

Market and Item	June 16, 1927	June 23, 1927	June 25, 1926
	Cents	Cents	Cents
New York, 92 score	42.00	42.25	41.50
Copenhagen, official quotation	32.62	32.21	34.74
Berlin, la quality	33.06	33.06	35.22
London: a/			
Danish	35.41	35.20	35.08
Dutch, unsalted	34.54	33.89	32.64
New Zealand	35.52	34.76	35.08
New Zealand, unsalted	38.02	37.37	35.08
Australian	35.20	35.20	34.47
Australian, unsalted	36.50	35.85	34.88
Argentine, unsalted	34.33	34.33	31.62
Siberian	34.54	32.81	31.22

Quotations converted at par exchange. a/ Quotations of following day.

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EUROPEAN LIVESTOCK AND MEAT MARKETS
(By weekly cable)

Market and Item	Unit	Week ending June 15, 1927	June 22, 1927	June 23, 1926
GERMANY:				
Receipts of hogs, 14 markets	Number	74,684	70,467	45,897
Prices of hogs, Berlin	$ per 100 lbs	12.97	12.32	16.37
Prices of lard, tcs., Hamburg	"	14.91	14.67	18.85
UNITED KINGDOM AND IRELAND:				
Hogs, certain markets, England	Number	8,675	8,246	7,747
Hogs, purchases, Ireland	"	17,669		
Prices at Liverpool:				
American Wiltshire sides	$ per 100 lbs	a/	a/	a/
Canadian " "	"	20.20	19.42	25.42
Danish " "	"	22.31	22.38	26.29

a/ No quotation.

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Botet.

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